

Lava Beds National Monument PO Box 1240 Tulelake, CA 96134

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## Lava Beds National Monument News Release

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## Find Lava Beds National Monument during National Park Week Celebrate with Free Admission and a New Special Program from April 16-24

TULELAKE – Celebrate the National Park Service's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and "Find Your Park" at Lava Beds National Monument during National Park Week, April 16 through 24. Entrance fees will be waived for the entire week, and visitors will be able to participate in the brand new Lava Beds Explorer Program!

The Lava Beds Explorer Program, which is part of the monument's National Park Service Centennial celebration, enables visitors to earn points for exploring caves and hiking trails, and once they have collected enough points, visitors will receive a prize. Visitors can learn about the program and get an explorer tracking scorecard at the visitor center beginning April 16.

"During National Park Week and throughout the centennial year, we invite everyone to come to Lava Beds National Monument to learn about the park and about the Tule Lake Unit," said Superintendent Larry Whalon. "This week will kick off an exciting summer season."

This is a great time to visit Lava Beds National Monument, learn about our country's history, explore the dark underground, and soak in the high desert expanses. Towards the end of the month, Lava Beds staff will switch the cave closures, meaning National Park Week is your last opportunity to visit the winter caves before they are closed for the summer season. Make sure to check in at the visitor center to see what caves are open to explore!

The waived entrance fee is usually \$15. The entrance fee waiver does not cover camping, and even on fee-free days, visitors must still go to the visitor center before entering any caves. Several passes are also available for purchase, including the Lava Beds Annual Pass and the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual Pass.

National Park Week is a great opportunity to explore the countless ways there are to #FindYourPark. Launched in March 2015, Find Your Park/Encuentra Tu Parque is a public awareness and education movement to inspire people from all backgrounds to connect with, celebrate, and support America's national parks and community-based programs. Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial and setting the stage for the Service's next 100 years, #FindYourPark invites people to discover and share their own unique connections to our nation's natural landscapes, vibrant culture, and rich history. Visit FindYourPark.com to learn more about National Park Week and other events taking place throughout the year.

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Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email <u>labe interpretation@nps.gov</u>, or go to <u>www.nps.gov/labe</u>. Like us on Facebook; follow us on Twitter!

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